

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims in the manner indicated.

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:
transmitting a frame containing a single preamble and a header over an air interface[[,]] at a first modulation rate; and
transmitting, in a same frame as the header, a consolidated payload over the air interface[[,]] at a second modulation rate different than the first modulation rate;[[,]]
wherein the consolidated payload includes multiple service data units and information to enable a receiver to determine when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur.
- 2-5. (cancelled)
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 [[5]], wherein the information includes multiple delimiters, each delimiter preceding an associated ~~which include a delimiter for at least~~ one of the multiple service data units, wherein [[the]] each ~~delimiter for a data unit~~ includes an indication of a length of the associated service data unit, ~~and wherein the delimiter is transmitted before the data unit at the second modulation rate.~~
7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein [[the]] a particular delimiter further includes a validation field, which enables [[a]] the receiver to determine whether the indication of the length in the particular delimiter is received correctly.
- 8-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A method comprising:
receiving a ~~preamble over an air interface~~;
receiving a ~~frame containing a single preamble and a header over [[the]] an~~
air interface~~[[,]]~~ at a first modulation rate; and
receiving a consolidated payload in the frame, at a second modulation rate
different from the first modulation rate, wherein the consolidated payload includes
multiple service data units;
wherein the consolidated payload further includes information indicating
when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur.

19-22. (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 18, wherein the
information includes multiple delimiters, each delimiter preceding an associated one
of the ~~which include a delimiter for at least one of the~~ multiple service data units,
wherein each of the delimiters ~~for a data unit~~ includes an indication of a length of
the associated service data unit, ~~and wherein the delimiter is received before the data~~
~~unit at the second modulation rate.~~

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein a particular one of
the delimiters further includes a validation field, the method further comprising:
determining whether the particular delimiter is valid using information in the
validation field; and
if the particular delimiter is not valid, ~~evaluating at least one delimiter-sized~~
~~data segment~~ finding another delimiter received in the consolidated payload, and
receiving another service data unit associated with said another delimiter to attempt
to find another possible delimiter.

25-29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a medium access control device, to provide multiple service data units to a physical device, the multiple service data units destined for a receiver; and
the physical device, coupled to the medium access control device, which is operable to

transmit a frame containing a single preamble and a header over an air interface[[,]] at a first modulation rate; and

transmit a consolidated payload in the frame over the air interface[[,]] at a second modulation rate different than the first modulation rate, wherein the consolidated payload is to include the multiple service data units and information to enable a receiver to determine when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur, and the consolidated payload is in a same frame as the header.

31-34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[34]] 30, wherein the information includes multiple delimiters which include a delimiter for each of the multiple service data units, wherein each of the delimiters for a data unit includes an indication of a length of the associated service data unit, and wherein each of the delimiters is to be transmitted before the associated service data unit ~~at the second modulation rate.~~

36. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[30]] 35, wherein each delimiter further includes a validation field, and wherein the physical device is further operable to:

determine whether a particular delimiter is valid using information in the validation field of the particular delimiter; and

if the particular delimiter is not valid, find another delimiter received in the consolidated payload after the particular delimiter, and receive another service data unit associated with said another delimiter; the header is a physical device header, and wherein at least some of the multiple data units are service data units that are separately deliverable by a receiver.

37. (original) The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising one or more antennae, coupled to the physical device, which is operable to provide an interface between the air interface and the physical device.

38. (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a medium access control device, to receive multiple service data units from a physical device; and
the physical device, coupled to the medium access control device, which is operable to

~~receive a preamble over an air interface;~~

receive a frame containing a single preamble and a header over
[[the]] an air interface[[,]] at a first modulation rate; and

receive a consolidated payload in a same frame as the header at a second modulation rate different than the first modulation rate, wherein the consolidated payload includes the multiple service data units;

wherein the consolidated payload further includes information indicating when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur.

40-42. (cancelled)

43. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[42]] 39, wherein the information includes multiple delimiters, each delimiter preceding an associated ~~which include a delimiter for at least one of the multiple~~ service data units, ~~wherein the delimiter for a data unit includes and containing~~ an indication of a length of the associated service data unit, ~~and wherein the delimiter is to be received before the data unit at the second modulation rate.~~

44. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein [[the]] each delimiter further includes a validation field, and wherein the physical device is further operable to:

determine whether [[the]] a particular delimiter is valid using information in the validation field of the particular delimiter; and

if the particular delimiter is not valid, ~~evaluate at least one delimiter-sized data segment~~ find another delimiter received in the consolidated payload after the particular delimiter, and receive another service data unit associated with said another delimiter ~~to attempt to find another possible delimiter~~.

45. (cancelled)

46. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[39]] 44, further comprising one or more antennae, coupled to the physical device, which are operable to provide an interface between the air interface and the physical device.

47. (cancelled)

48. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having program instructions stored thereon to perform a method, which when executed within a wireless local area network device, result in:

transmitting a frame containing a single preamble and a header over an air interface~~[[,]]~~ at a first modulation rate; and

transmitting a consolidated payload in the frame over the air interface, at a second modulation rate different than the first modulation rate, wherein the consolidated payload includes multiple service data units ~~in a same frame as the header~~;

wherein the consolidated payload further includes information to enable a receiver to determine when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur.

49-51. (cancelled)

52. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[51]] 48, wherein the information includes multiple delimiters, each delimiter preceding an associated ~~which include a delimiter for at least~~ one of the multiple service data

units, ~~wherein the delimiter for a data unit includes and containing~~ an indication of a length of the ~~associated service~~ data unit, ~~and wherein the delimiter is transmitted before the data unit at the second modulation rate.~~

53. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 52, wherein each of the delimiters further includes a validation field, and executing the program instructions further results in:

determining whether a particular delimiter is valid using information in the validation field of the particular delimiter; and

if the particular delimiter is not valid, finding another delimiter received after the particular delimiter in the consolidated payload, and receiving another service data unit associated with said another delimiter ~~the header is a physical device header, and wherein at least some of the multiple data units are service data units that are separately deliverable by a receiver.~~

54. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having program instructions stored thereon to perform a method, which when executed within a wireless local area network device, result in:

~~receiving a preamble over an air interface;~~

receiving a frame containing a single preamble and a header over ~~[[the]]~~ an air interface~~[[,]]~~ at a first modulation rate; and

receiving a consolidated payload in the frame at a second modulation rate different than the first modulation rate, wherein the consolidated payload includes multiple service data units; ~~in a same frame as the header~~

wherein the consolidated payload further includes information indicating when an end of each of the multiple service data units will occur.

55-57. (cancelled)

58. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~[[57]]~~ 54, wherein the information includes multiple delimiters, ~~which include a delimiter for~~

~~at least each delimiter preceding an associated one of the multiple service data units, wherein the each delimiter for a data unit includes an indication of a length of the associated service data unit; and wherein the delimiter is received before the data unit at the second modulation rate.~~

59. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 58, wherein each of the delimiters further includes a validation field, and executing the program instructions further results in:

determining whether ~~the~~ a particular delimiter is valid using information in the validation field of the particular delimiter; and

if the particular delimiter is not valid, ~~evaluating at least one delimiter-sized data segment~~ finding another delimiter received after the particular delimiter in the consolidated payload, and receiving another service data unit associated with said another delimiter ~~to attempt to find another possible delimiter.~~

60. (cancelled)